Nader Asks Church, Pike to Quit Posts

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Ralph Nader is urging the chairmen of the Senate and House panels investigating illegal government intelligence activities to resign their committee posts "as soon as possible" because of their political ambitions.

Nader urged Sen. Frank Church (D-Idaho), chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, and Rep. Otis Pike (D-N.Y.), chairman of the House intelligence subcommittee, to give up their posts so that the investigations will not lose "momentum."

Appearing Sunday on ABC's "Issues and Answers," the public-interest advocate said there has not been "a deep enough probe" into intelligence activities, particularly into any alleged involvement by corporations or unions.

"One of the problems," Nader said, "is that the chairmen of the two committees . . . have clear political ambitions."

Church is expected soon to announce his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination Nader said Pike was considering running for the Senate, where the term of James L. Buckley (Cons.-R-N.Y.) expires next year.